MARVEL
PSR 31

EXILES

AVENGERS FOREVER

Oh really?

I think we *might* just get out of here in one piece.

FIRE!
TZOT
TZOT
TZOT
TZOT
Take them down *fast*, people! Before they call for *reinforcements!*
You *worry* too much, boss man.
Janet's right, Cap.
These boys won't take more than a minute. *Less* than a minute if we don't hold back!
Damn! Where's the *breach alarm*?! I signaled a *breach alarm!*
They must have *deactivated* it!
We're not getting any help!

Oh God, Oh God, Oh God, Oh God--*please* let this work!

Stay back! All of you STAY BACK!

K-TANG!

A *crucifix?* What else do you have in that *bag o' tricks?* Holy water? Garlic?

Maybe a *wooden stake...?*

Y'see, all of those things *might* be helpful. If you could get close enough to *use* them.

So how about I get GOOD AND CLOSE?!

AAAIIIEEE!

It's *always* the soldier types that scream like *girls*.

Breathe easy, sweetie. It'll all be over in a *few minutes*.

Barring that I *really* start enjoying myself...

AAAHH--
AAAAH---
AAAAAAH!!!!

"Wait--so Captain America's a *vampire*? Geez-Louise...this is gonna be a *fun* reality."

THE MISSION DISTRICT OF SAN FRANCISCO
TEEP'S COFFEE, INTERNET CAFÉ
1:28 AM

The EXILES

Is nothing *sacred* anymore? What *else* they got? *Reed Richards* lording over *Latveria*? *Daredevil* the Kingpin of crime in *New York*?

Oh, nothing *that* crazy, TJ...it seems the big blooie here in Dodge City is that Cap and the Avengers are *vampires.*

Morph, where are you *getting* all this? Did you *hack* into the Avengers' files?

Nope. It's on the *Internet,* Mariko. They've got *fan sites. Chat rooms. Lotsa* info. People *like* this sick, dark stuff.

Here, you want to do a search on *Charles Manson?* We'd get about a *million links.*

I take it this divergence in reality occurred when Captain America fought *Baron Blood?*

Yup. Apparently he *lost* that classic battle and ol' BB turned Cap into a *bloodsucker.*

Okay, I'm *lost*. I'm the *odd-Exile-out* this time. Who's *Baron Blood*?

He's a *vampire*. A very *old* one...

Calvin, does the *Tallus* say why we're here?

I don't know-- I'm still new to sporting this thing. It's just saying: *To stop the Vampire King from releasing the enchantment that will enslave a city.*

Ah. Good. ***That's*** clear.

Morph, is ***Union Jack*** still around? He's been fighting Baron Blood for ***generations...***

I'm already on it, Mariko. Gimme a few minutes of research, a few minutes of ***hacking*** and I'll see what I can turn up.

So, what's the ***plan,*** Oh fearless leader? Do we kill the ***Vampire America?***

I haven't a ***clue,*** Illyana...but I hope it doesn't involve ***killing*** anyone.

We do what we have to.

No, ***you*** do what you have to.

Is that right?

You're ***brutal***, Illyana. More than you ***have*** to be.

You've only been with us for a ***month***, but you've really been making an effort at ***distinguishing*** yourself.

You nearly ***killed*** Moria Taggert. And you probably left Black Panther's son ***crippled***.

And those Morlock children... ***children***...they could all be lost ***forever***. We'll ***never know*** what happened to them.

Right. We won't know because it ***completed*** the mission and it ***moved us on***. I ***solved*** those problems the only way they ***could*** be solved.

That's ***crap***. You always go for the ***quick and easy*** way out.

Vicious ***and*** lazy at the same time.

I'm not ***asking*** you to knock it off, Illyana-- I'm ***ordering*** you to. So ***stop it***.

Or ***what***? I get a ***spanking***?

Yeah. Good. The ***seductress*** thing.

That won't piss me off much.

So how about you, hot stuff? Lonely?

No.

But I do get *bored* occasionally.

I'll let you know.

Cheeky.

We try...

Hey, kids, campers, fellow reality rejects--we've hit *pay dirt!* The current Union Jack on this world is one *Kenneth Crichton*, son of Jacqueline *"Spitfire"* Crichton--daughter of the original Union Jack, Lord Montgomery Falsworth.

He's been fighting vamps and Cap in particular for a long--*aw, crud.*

Cap did a number on Union Jack three years ago. He's alive...but *retired.* He's living on the Falsworth Estate in England.

Keep hacking, Morph. Get a phone number.

Time for Mr. Falsworth to put on the *blue and red* again.

THE FALSWORTH ESTATE

...to *enslave a city?* I see, Mimic... that would explain the break-in at the S.H.I.E.L.D. facility two nights ago.

The Avengers stole an ancient supernatural *totem* that S.H.I.E.L.D had been safekeeping

It possesses many properties, but the one you need to focus on is *The Macodibe Enchantment.*

Vampires can create many *minions*--unwilling servants.

But with this enchantment, they can enslave close to a *million* to do their bidding as *zombies.*

As the current *Vampire King,* Captain America is *more* than capable of activating the spell...

...but it has to be performed at one of six *de-consecrated* locations at particular times.

Here. This is where he will strike, and I suppose this is why that *magic bracelet* of yours--the *Tallus*--dropped you in the *City by the Bay.*

There are two such places in San Francisco. It will happen under tonight's *full moon.*

Lord Critchon, I understand that you've *given up* the mantle of Union Jack But we could use your *expertise* in the field. If you would just *join* us--

Please, Mimic. I will provide all the information I can...

...but Captain America took Jr on Jack *away* some years ago.

So *these* are the grounds of the ancient temple of the *High Lord Kolock*, Cap?

Yes. *Twelve hundred* years old. Regardless of what they've constructed here, it still carries all the *mystical properties* that we require.

And besides... I like the *view.*

So, we have over a *million* people who need to become ***bound*** to our word

Where do we start? With the *incantation*? Should we build the *altar*?

We'll do that.

If the damned thing didn't have to be made out of ***wood***, I'd just--

SHUCK!

Illyanna, I told you to wait for my *signal!*

I thought you ***gave*** the signal

Just shut up and *fight!*

It bothers me *so* much to do this to you Avengers, but I just keep *reminding* myself that you suck blood and sleep in coffins!

Just like record company executives! If I met them, I'd give them the *same!*

BLAAAAM!

Easy! *Hey!* All we want is the *totem* and we can all part as *friends!*

KZOT

When I'm through, there'll be nothing left but your *bones!*

Hate to disappoint, toots, but I'm *boneless*--unstable mo·ecu·es! Though I catch your drift!

Calvin Rankin? When did *you* join up with good guys? Given up on *mercenary* work?

SKRAAANG!

Right guy, *wrong* reality.

My mistake!

All the same--you're still a *dead man!*

KWOOONG!

G-get off.

Stop *squirming* and this will all be over with *quickly!*

Sounding like a physician as always, Dr Pym..

wel, I can, too.

HWOOOAAAAR!

"This may sting a little!"

AAARRRGGH!

AAAH!

HULK!

How 'bout, "You're going to feel a little prick!"

I will never understand the *idiocy* of "quipping during battle."

CRACK!

Sorry you don't like the floor show, missie...

. "Try and rest easy for a couple of hours."

WHAP!

C'mon, you furry bag of e#$ Tell me how *sorry* you are for beating on me! *Tell me now!*

I would but you're-- *choking* me!

Hold her steady, Falcon! We can take her out *quick!*

Two against *one?* The *hell* with this. The hell with the *both* of you!

BLA-AAAM!

Let's take this fight to a *different venue.* What do you *say--?!*

KURUUKK!

I am getting *very* tired of this, Rankin'

What do you people *want?!*

IZOT

You're looking to create a *zombie race* of this city's inhabitants!

KWEEECCH!

And we're looking to *curtail* that, you *idiot!*

MMMHH!

KA BAAMMGG!

Fine! Then you'll *join* them!

You'll be a very useful *lap dog!*

You're wounded, matchhead! *Give it up!*

Go to hell!

Wait, I've got a *better idea--*

Why don't you *join us* in it?

You monster!

AAARG!

SHAAK!

Mariko?!

Mariko?!

Just *hang on!* You're gonna be *okay!*

Mariko?!

Do you know how many of you I've *killed?!*

Do you know how many of you I've *turned?!*

BAAAM!

Most "heroes" are smart enough to *stay away* from me! Scared of the *supernatural!*

I'm a creature of *ancient forces!* I'm an old storm that has ravaged the world for *centuries!*

I'm the *immortal Vampire King!*

Do you think you can *defeat* me? What *are* you?! *Stupid?!*

KAANG!

CRACK!

Yup. That's me.

Stupid.

I wanted this to go a *different* way, Cap

To honor who you *were,* I guess.

I can't forget what you've *meant* to all of us!

SCRAACK!

But that man is *gone!*

Long gone.

And I *can't* let the *monster* go on!

KA-KA

God help us all...

SCRAACH

Aw, hell and damnation...

It...was...a... *valiant*...effort... Rankin...

...wanna try again?

TO BE CONTINUED

RESTRICTED
Security Access Required

This is *Wasp*. Sector one is clear.

We read you. We're coming in.

Are you *certain* it's in this facility?

Absolutely.

It's nearby... let's keep moving.

Proceed *slowly*...we can be in and out in ten minutes without discovery.

Oh, come on--who *cares* if we're discovered?

It's better if they don't know it's even *missing*. We should just--

FREEZE!

Stay *right* where you are, you pieces of garbage!

You people have got *some* chops coming in here. You'll never get out *alive*.